

## SEEK NEW TRIAL OF YOUNG WATSON

Counsel Will File Motion  
Within Four Days.

IF DENIED, WILL APPEAL

Ex-District Clerk, Convicted Yesterday  
of Embezzlement, Can Be Given  
Thirty-five-Year Sentence.

D. W. Baker, of counsel for James M. A. Watson, Jr., convicted in Criminal Court No. 1, yesterday, of the embezzlement of \$73,000 of District funds, said this morning that he will within the four days allowed by law, file a motion for a new trial and arrest of judgment.

In the event the motion is denied an appeal will then be taken to the Court of Appeals for the District.

The penalty for the crime of embezzlement is imprisonment in the penitentiary for a period not exceeding five years and a fine of \$5,000. There were seven counts in the two indictments under which Watson was convicted. Under the law he may be sentenced to the maximum penalty on each of the seven counts, making a term of thirty-five years and a fine of \$35,000.

Watson heard the announcement of his guilt, by the foreman of the jury which considered the evidence against him, without a tremor or sign of surprise, and without a word slowly turned from where he stood waiting to hear his fate, and walked away to the prison cell in the basement of the City Hall.

He was taken from there to the District jail, where he will await the result of his counsel's motion for a new trial of his case.

### History of the Case.

Watson was for four years a trusted clerk in the office of the Auditor of the District. June 9, 1903, he was arrested on a charge of embezzling public money. His defalcations footed up more than \$73,000. When accused of the offense by James T. Petty, then Auditor, Watson admitted his guilt. He acknowledged having stolen as much as \$30,000, and said he had lost it dabbling in stocks. He also said the matter had worried him day and night for many months, and he at one time thought he would go to the Auditor's office, procure all the evidences of his guilt, burn them, and then commit suicide.

Watson has been confined in the District jail since his arrest in June, 1903, being unable to secure bail for his release.

### The First Trial.

Last spring he was called to trial before Justice Pritchard, then, presiding in Criminal Court No. 1. The trial was, however, discontinued because of the misconduct of one of the jurors. When the trial had progressed for two days the juror referred to arose in his seat, and, addressing the court, said: "Your honor, I wish to know if the defendant is to be tried by public opinion or according to the evidence offered against him?" After giving the juror an opportunity to explain his conduct, which he did not do to the satisfaction of the court, Justice Pritchard sent him to jail for two months for contempt.

Since the second trial of Watson was begun the juror in question died.

For some time, which no one ever attempted to explain, since Watson's arrest there have been rumors that he never would be tried, and if he were called to answer for the crime with which he was charged, he would not be convicted.

### Counsel for Defense.

Soon after his arrest, Watson secured the best legal talent of the District bar in his defense. It has freely been contended by his friends that because of the manner in which he secured possession of the money he was accused of embezzling and the nature of the funds he appropriated, he would not be convicted. His defense was purely technical in nature. His counsel argued that Watson was not an officer of the District government; that he received the checks which he appropriated in his capacity as a messenger for the Auditor, and as such could not embezzle the property. If he committed any offense at all, it was contended, it was larceny and not embezzlement.

On that question counsel for the defense submitted the case to the court and asked that the jury be instructed to declare the defendant not guilty of the charge set forth in the indictment against him.

### Overrules the Motion.

Justice Wright after a clear and simple definition of the two offenses and an application of the evidence offered to each, decided that Watson was properly indicted and overruled the motion to take the case from the jury.

Watson was not called to testify in his own defense, his counsel arguing to the jury that the Government had utterly failed to prove him guilty of the crime with which he is charged. The trial of Watson, which really began December 22 by the organization of the jury, was not ended until the taking of testimony until Monday last.

### Wife a Spectator.

Mrs. Watson, wife of the accused, was in court yesterday as she was on Thursday. She, however, did not appear in court when the jury announced its finding against her husband.

Both the morning and afternoon sessions of the court yesterday were taken up in the arguments of counsel to the jury. The case was opened for the Government by Assistant District Attorney Charles H. Turner and closed by Assistant District Attorney Charles A. Kelgwin. The arguments in favor of the defendant were made by Stuart McNamara and D. W. Baker.

District Attorney Beach, who was present and conducted the prosecution the first days of the trial, was unable to be present on the last day.

A. S. Worthington, of counsel for the defendant, was also absent during out of the city.

REQUIRE MASS CHANTED  
FOR MRS. J. A. HUGHES

An impressive requiem service over the remains of Mrs. Jennie A. Hughes was conducted by Father Carroll, of St. Patrick's Church, at 9 o'clock this morning. Interment was in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Mrs. Hughes was a native of Washington, whose maiden name was Jennie Donnelly. She was the widow of late Frank P. Hughes, who, when a very young man, came to this city and made himself prominent in business circles. They are survived by a son and two daughters.

## CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT



J. M. A. WATSON, JR.

Found Guilty by Jury of Having Illegally Taken \$73,000 of Public Money.

## Shad of the Chesapeake Thrive in the Pacific

Transplanted to Oregon Rivers They Multiply  
by Millions and Become Marketable Product—Oysters Grow There Also.

According to reports that are being brought to Washington from the Pacific Coast the shad and oyster of Chesapeake Bay are making their way rapidly in their adopted home waters.

Max Pracht, an employee of the United States Land Office, with headquarters at Peacelbow, Paradise, Ore., is in Washington in connection with the recent land fraud indictments, and he says the shad has already become a nuisance to the salmon fishermen. The fish were planted in the Pacific waters a few years ago by the United States Fish Commission, and today they are thicker at points on the line of the California, Oregon, and Washington coasts than they are on the Atlantic seaboard. The change of habitat seems also to increase the size and improve the flavor of the fish.

### Saw Tons of Shad.

"I was at one of the salmon sealing grounds last summer," said Pracht today, "near Astoria. I saw tons of shad, fine fellows, weighing from four pounds upward, hauled in with the salt mon, most of them going to waste, as a large shad will not bring more than 10 cents in the Portland markets."

"There is just a chance, however, that the residents of Washington may soon have canned shad. Successful experiments in canning shad have been made, the salmon method of cooking in steam retorts being employed."

"It is said that in this method smaller bones in the fish are jellyfied, and their presence is not noticed in the canned fish."

### Ten Cents a Pound.

"It is possible to put fish thus cooked on the Washington market at ten cents a pound can, and it may soon be done."

"Canvassback ducks have always lived and thrived on the Pacific coast, and now they have been joined by the Chesapeake oyster, which have multiplied by the million since the first were planted less than a score of years ago."

"Of course, it is not probable that these oysters will ever be shipped East, but it is certain Pacific shad will soon be in competition with that of the Chesapeake."

## PLAN TO ABOLISH ROLL OF PER DIEM CLERKS

Clause in District Bill Provides Annual  
Payment for All Such  
Employees.

An almost total abolition of per diem offices under the government of the District of Columbia is being contemplated by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Representative McCleary, chairman of the subcommittee in charge of the District appropriation bill, yesterday afternoon introduced in the House a bill authorizing the Committee on Appropriations to report on the District of Columbia appropriation bill "such provision as may in their judgment be necessary to provide specifically for all personal services now authorized and being paid for out of general appropriations, and to restrict or limit such employment of personal services hereafter."

The adoption of this rule, it is thought, will simply mean that practically all the per diem men at the District Building will be transferred to the annual rolls. Such an arrangement will be slightly more economical than having the men on the per diem pay roll.

### ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT.

MADISON, Wis., Jan. 6.—Clarence L. Messer, former cashier of a bank at Sanilac Center, Mich., has been arrested, charged with embezzlement. He has been living with his family here since December. He will not fight extradition.

Wife a Spectator.

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## W., B. & A. ROAD TO CHANGE HANDS

Cleveland Syndicate to Take  
It Over.

DEAL SOON TO BE COMPLETED

Only a Few Minor Details Remain to  
Be Arranged—Financial  
Troubles.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 6.—After negotiations lasting for several months the Cleveland owners of the partly completed Washington, Baltimore, and Annapolis traction property are to sell their interests to another Cleveland syndicate that has been organized to take over the property and complete it.

All the substantial features of the transaction have been agreed to and only a few minor legal details remain to be taken before the transfer is made. The deal will probably be completed this week.

### Cleveland Promoters.

The Washington, Baltimore, and Annapolis road was promoted by W. H. Lamprecht, Fred T. Pomeroy, Will Christy and a number of other Cleveland and Ohio people, and is still owned by them. It was only partially completed, when the shrinkage of business came two years ago, and it was not possible at that time to finance the deal and carry it to completion.

On July 12, 1903, the road was placed in the hands of receivers, James Christy, Jr., of Akron, and George William, of Baltimore, being named, and they are still in charge.

### Preliminary Work Begun.

A year or more ago the preliminary steps were taken to clear up the contract indebtedness of the property and get it in shape where it could be refinanced or the property sold to some other traction company. A committee was chosen to take charge of that work, the members being E. G. Thilston, W. N. Gates, W. S. Hayden and F. T. Pomeroy.

The work of the company was to get the property out of the hands of the receivers and formulate a plan for its future. An assessment was levied and the funds made up of a bond issue, writing that has enabled the committee to clear the property of its obligations in connection with the deal and a clear title given.

### Financial Troubles.

The financial troubles of the road were precipitated by the inability of a considerable number of the subscribers to the underwriting to meet the calls for cash. The other members were not able to take up the defaulted subscriptions and the times were not such that new capital was easily secured.

Some months ago there were negotiations opened between the owners and some other Clevelanders who were with the syndicate that constructed the Northern Texas Traction Company some years ago, and the negotiations have progressed to the point where George T. Bishop, John Sherwin, and their associates are to purchase the road and complete it. They built and have operated the road in Texas, which has been one of the most phenomenal successes in all the long list of traction properties promoted by Ohio capitalists.

Between Washington and Baltimore.

The line is designed to furnish a high speed service between Washington and Baltimore, and the tracks are to be entirely on private right of way and constructed so that the cars operated will travel on steam road time. There is an immense interchange of travel between the two cities, and it is expected the travel will grow every year as the population increases, so that the traction line has the prospects of an immense business from its opening.

The company has a contract for operating its cars into the city of Washington over the tracks of the local company and it has franchises in the city of Baltimore. The distance between the two cities is thirty-one miles.

The line has been considered an excellent one from the time the Cleveland men proposed it, secured their franchises, and started work. A number of the men in the former enterprise will remain in the new syndicate.

## DEATH OF FOUNDER OF RAILROAD MANUAL

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 6.—Henry V. Poor, founder of Poor's "Manual of Railroads," a publication issued in New York for more than half a century, died at his home in Brookline, Mass., yesterday evening at his residence on Walnut Street, Brookline.

Three weeks ago he fell on the ice and broke his ankle. The shock was a severe one to his system, as he was in his ninety-third year, and his death was caused by heart failure.

## HIS NIECE ELOPES, ROBS BLIND UNCLE

Takes Even Fiddle With  
Which He Earned Living.

HOT CHASE FOR THE COUPLE

Sightless Man and Friends Follow in  
Buggies, But Fugitives Elude  
Them.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 6.—"I have been robbed by the person I loved best in the world, and she took from me even my old fiddle, which was my only means of making a living," said Joseph Yates, fifty years old and blind, who has applied to the police for assistance, telling a remarkable story of misfortune, robbery, and a chase across Tennessee.

"I was born in Vanceburg," said the old man, "and lived there until my mother died. My niece was left an orphan when she was a little child. Her mother was burned to death and my mother took the little girl."

### Like a Daughter.

"I raised her myself, and she was like a daughter to me. When my mother died I was forced to travel about in order to make a living with my fiddle."

"The girl went with me, and I always succeeded in providing for her. We visited fairs in Tennessee last summer, and when the cooler weather came I rented a house in Belle Station, Tenn., and intended to stay there all winter."

"A young man named Oscar Hughes paid the little girl attention, and often came to see her. He seemed to be a nice young fellow, and I was pleased with him."

### Sent to Church.

"On Sunday night Hughes and my niece came to me and asked if I wanted to go to the New Year meeting in the church. I said I wouldn't mind going if I had company. They told me to go with Mr. Walker, a neighbor."

"I was in Mr. Walker's house when I heard a wagon go by. They told me it was my wagon, but I did not believe them. Mr. Walker went back to the house with me, and we found that everything had been stolen."

"They took all of my clothes except the ones I have on and carried away \$20, which I had saved up. The team was made up of a blind horse and a mule. The horse belonged to my niece, but the wagon and mule were mine. I felt that I had been robbed, and I was so angry he roused the whole neighborhood."

### Follow in Buggies.

"Ten men took me with them and followed in buggies. Hughes had got a good start of us, and we had trouble tracking them. When we got to the Mississippi River the people there said we would have to give it up. They said Hughes and the girl had crossed the river three hours before. I went to see the mayor, but he told me that they were in another State and the best thing we could do was to leave them alone. So we all went back."

"My friends collected \$3.57 and sent me here on the railroad. I stayed all night in the depot and the policeman brought me in. I want to go back to my old home in Vanceburg, where I shall have sisters and brothers. If they don't care for me I will go to the poorhouse."

## THOMAS NELSON CONRAD TO REST AT BLACKSBURG

Thomas Nelson Conrad, sixty-four years of age, died yesterday morning at 3 o'clock at 2150 Florida Avenue northwest, of acute indigestion. The funeral will be held at 10 o'clock this morning in Blacksburg, Va., to which place the body was conveyed.

Mr. Conrad served for many years as president of Blacksburg (Va.) College, and had among other scholars during that time Thomas Nelson Page and Representative Claude A. Swanson, of Virginia.

He was a Confederate soldier during the civil war, serving in Gen. J. E. B. Stuart's command.

In 1890 he resigned the presidency of the college to accept a position as a general statistician in the Census Office in this city.

A book was recently published by Mr. Conrad under the title of "Personal Memoirs," which deals with his experiences during the civil war.

## What is "Best" in Cigars

TOBACCO quality is purely a matter of taste; that smoke is best to you which pleases you best. "The best in the world" is that tobacco which pleases the greatest number of smokers.

The selection of tobacco for cigars must therefore be governed not by the individual case, but by the experience of the public preference. The expert who selects the leaf which goes into our cigars is life-trained in the knowledge of the characteristics that please the greater number of smokers.

This is but one of the safeguards in the United method of supervision in their direct buying and selling that enables us to offer the usual three-for-a-quarter value in the

## BENEFACCTOR

NEW SUPERIOR SIZE

5 Cents Each, \$5.00 Per 100, \$2.50 Box of 50

Made of straight Havana filler, selected Sumatra wrapper; has the tobacco quality generally found in cigars costing much more by ordinary methods.

It is easy to reach one of the 300 UNITED STORES in principal cities, or we deliver cigars by the hundred, prepaid, to any address in the United States on receipt of price. Send to Flatiron Building, New York, for "Cigar Book."

UNITED CIGAR STORES COMPANY

941 Pennsylvania Avenue

## THE PALAIS ROYAL Gloves



The best possible \$1.50 Kid Gloves, for ladies and gentlemen, have been a Palais Royal specialty for twenty-five years. Fitted by experts, at our risk. The future wear also guaranteed.

New patrons—have you yet tried Palais Royal Kid Gloves?

**\$1 Kid Gloves 65c**  
No risk if you are willing to pay one dollar. The gloves will be fitted and guaranteed. If you pay 65c you accept the responsibility.



## Veilings

Velvet and Chenille Spot

Veilings at 25c instead of 50c

a yard. Only 89c for Paris

Veilings.

**\$3 89c 5c**  
\$7 Hats \$5 Hats 25c Feathers

Clearing Sale of Winter Styles—\$3 for best \$7 Hand-made Hats, trimmed with best flowers and ribbons; 89c for The Palais Royal's Popular \$5 Hats, to wear with tailor gowns; 5c for 25c Fancy Breasts and Feather Pompons.

## 20% Discount

One-fifth off the price marked on Neck Ruffs here at \$1.50 to \$20, as illustrated, and 20 per cent discount allowed on Ostrich Feather Boas here at \$10 to \$25.

## 50c Neckwear, 35c

The Palais Royal's 50c Neckwear is noted for superiority. New patrons—have you yet tried this neckwear?



## 1904 Undergarments

Winter stock of "Oneita" Union Suits, "Merode" Suits, Vests, and Pants, "Onyx" Hose, at finally reduced prices. And miscellaneous bargains as follows:

13c for Ladies' Fast Black Fleeced Hose. They are not 15c Stockings.  
25c for Ladies' Ribbed Wool Stockings. They are not 35c Stockings.  
39c for Ladies' Cashmere and Fleeced Hose. They are not 50c Stockings.  
48c for Ladies' Fancy Hose. Some of them were \$1 pair.



### Note These

**25c 17c**  
Corset Covers, as illustrated, trimmed front and back, 25c instead of 50c. Drawers, as illustrated, open and closed, 17c instead of 25c. On third floor.

## Mothers' Day

A Saturday never goes by without special attractions for mothers with young children.

Dresses at 98c.

The picture is one of them. Others are here, some worth \$2.25. Choice of serge, cashmere, and cloth dresses, all lined throughout; sizes 4 to 14 years.

Coats at \$1.98.

Braid-trimmed Cloth Coats, sizes 2 to 5 years only. Last of the \$3.98 winter garments—at only \$1.98.

Infants' Coats, \$3.50.

Long and Short White Bedford Cord Coats, lace and ribbon trimmed; sizes up to 2 years. \$5 Coats for \$3.50.

See table full of Colored Cloth Dresses, Long and Short White Dresses, Caps, Shoes, Sacques, Leggings, Aprons, Night Gowns, Night Drawers. Some were \$1.50. Choice for..... **35c**

## The Palais Royal

A. Lisner

G and Eleventh Sts.

